

Main Office
400 North Tampa Street, Suite 3200
Tampa, Florida 33602
813/274-6000
813/274-6200 (Fax)



Post Office Box 600
200 West Forsyth Street, Room 700
Jacksonville, Florida 32201
904/232-2682
904/232-2620 (Fax)

2110 First Street, Suite 3-137
Fort Myers, Florida 33901
941/461-2200
941/461-2219 (fax)

U.S. Department of Justice
United States Attorney
Middle District of Florida

80 North Hughey Avenue, Room 201
Orlando, Florida 32801
407/648-7500
407/648/7643 (Fax)

Reply to: **Jacksonville, FL**

February 14, 2003

ST. AUGUSTINE MAN SENTENCED TO 17
YEARS 6 MONTHS IN PRISON FOR POSSESSING A PISTOL

PRESS RELEASE

Jacksonville, Florida— On February 13, 2003, United States District Judge Harvey E. Schlesinger sentenced Elliott Keith Anderson, age 24, St. Augustine, Florida, to 17 years, 6 months' imprisonment followed by 5 years' supervised release for possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

Anderson was arrested on New Year's Day 2002 after Jacksonville Sheriff's Office Deputies had stopped a car in which Anderson was riding for a traffic infraction. The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office and the Department of Treasury's Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, in partnership under Project Safe Neighborhoods, determined that Anderson's extensive criminal record qualified him for sentencing enhancements as an Armed Career Criminal. Anderson was subsequently indicted for the federal charges by a grand jury in the Jacksonville Division of the Middle District of Florida. On August 7, 2002, a jury in United States District Court found Anderson guilty of the charge after trial. Judge Schlesinger sentenced Anderson yesterday as an Armed Career Criminal.

This is another case prosecuted as a part the Department of Justice program "Project Safe Neighborhoods" - a nationwide gun violence reduction initiative with strong support from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF). United States Attorney Paul Perez is coordinating the cooperative effort here in the Middle District of Florida with

October 18, 2002

Page 2

federal, state and local law enforcement officials and calling our effort "Project Safe Neighborhoods - Operation HALT the Violence!" The objective is to reduce violent crime by locating and seizing unlawfully possessed guns and then swiftly prosecuting the offenders using both federal and state gun laws.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Frank Talbot and Ronald T. Henry of the Jacksonville Division of the Middle District of Florida.